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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. FLD 81

COUNTRY Venezuela

DATE DISTR. 19 January 1949

SUBJECT Strike in Maracaibo Oil Region

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PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF INFO
25X1X6SUPPLEMENT TO
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SOURCE

1. A strike in the oil region was called 17 January over a clandestine radio station in the Lake Maracaibo area by Accion Democratica elements in protest against the present military government. By noon all nationals had left their jobs in the east lake area with the exception of those manning power plants. Many laborers failed to return to work as a result of intimidation.
2. The work stoppage was calm and orderly. There was no display of arms or machetes and no threats against the companies. Syndicate leaders went underground and could not be contacted.
3. The Governor of the area issued an official decree in support of the companies to terminate the employment of nationals failing to return to work by 18 January without payments of accrued benefits, vacations, etc. Companies in the east lake area reported that from 10 per cent to 50 per cent of the workers had returned to work on the morning of 18 January. Others were slowly returning. It is believed by the companies that the strike is breaking up in the Lagunillas area.
4. The oil companies closed down the wells temporarily, holding up production in the east lake area until the situation appeared clearer. Conditions in Maracaibo and the west lake area appear normal at present.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

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